

This little Parrot is hardly larger than the members of the genus *Psittacula*, females of which it at first sight resembles. The nostril, however, is placed in the middle of a distinct cere, showing its relationship to *Brotogeris*.

Mr. Whitely obtained several specimens of this bird, which have passed into the hands of ourselves, Mr. Selater, and Count H. v. Berlepsch; and we all, I believe, agree in considering it undescribed.

COLUMBA RUFINA.

The examination of a young bird of this species from Bartica Grove suggests to us that Mr. Lawrence's *Melopelia plumescens* (Ibis, 1880, p. 238) may be *C. rufina* in its first plumage. There are some discrepancies between our bird and Mr. Lawrence's description, chiefly as regards the colour of the top of the head, which has a rufous tinge in our specimen, instead of being whitish ash. As this may arise from our skin being that of a rather younger bird than Mr. Lawrence's type, and as in other respects the two agree very closely, we are strongly of opinion that *Melopelia plumescens* must be placed as a synonym of *Columba rufina*.

XXV.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

(Continued from p. 118.)

49. Blasius and Nehr Korn on Birds from Amboina.

[Dr. Platen's ornithologische Sammlungen aus Amboina, verzeichnet und besprochen von Wilh. Blasius und Ad. Nehr Korn. Verh. der k. k. zool.-bot. Gesell. Wien, 1882, p. 411.]

Dr. Platen's Amboina collections made in 1881 and 1882 contained 138 skins, referable to 43 species, of which an account is here given. Three species (*Myzomela boiei*, *Ardetta flavicollis*, and *Sterna nigra*) are new to the Amboinan avifauna. The nests and eggs of many species are described. *Tanyptera dea* bores its holes in ants' nests which are placed in the trees, and deposits two shining white eggs.

50. *British Association's Report on Migration in 1881.*

[Report on the Migration of Birds in the Spring and Autumn of 1881. By Mr. John A. Harvie-Brown, Mr. John Cordeaux, Mr. Philip M. C. Kermode, Mr. R. M. Barrington, and Mr. A. G. More. 8vo. London: 1882.]

This is the third Report of the Committee appointed by the British Association for the purpose of obtaining observations on the migration of birds at lighthouses and light-ships. It contains separate reports based upon returns from various points on the east and west coasts of England and Scotland, and also from the Irish coast, drawn up by different members of the Committee, and furnishes a mass of useful information which will ultimately, no doubt, throw much light upon this obscure subject.

51. '*Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club.*'

[Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club: a Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vol. viii. no. 1, Jan. 1883: Cambridge, Mass.]

In this number Mr. Jeffries describes very clearly an extraordinary case of complete lateral hermaphroditism in a specimen of *Pipilo chlorurus*. Mr. Brewster continues his account of Mr. Stephens's Arizona birds, amongst which are noticed *Picus stricklandi* (14 specimens from the Santa Rita mountains), *Micrathene whitneyi* (common in the desert-region about Tucson), and (three examples of) *Buteo abbreviatus*. *Callipepla squamata castanogastris* (!) is a new subspecies from the Lower Rio Grande. We have also read with much amusement Dr. Coues's "Compliments of the Season," and admired the illustrations; but *where* was Dr. Coues when so many of his feathered friends paid him a visit? He does not state in what place he passed his New-Year's Day; and we believe that he does not always remain in the same abode.

52. *Dubois on the Variability of Birds of the Genus Loxia.*

[De la Variabilité des Oiseaux du Genre *Loxia*. Par M. Alph. Dubois. Bull. du Musée R. d'Hist. Nat. Belgique, 1882, Oct.]

M. Dubois speaks of the Crossbills as exemplifying his views that many so-called species are only "climatic varieties," and describes a new variety "*amurensis*" of *Loxia leucoptera*.

53. Gould's 'Supplement to the Trochilidæ.'

[Supplement to the Trochilidæ, or Humming-Birds. By John Gould, F.R.S. &c. Part III. Folio. London: 1883.]

The third part of the 'Supplement to the Trochilidæ' has now been issued, and contains figures of the following species:—

Urosticte ruficrissa.	Selasphorus flammula.
Heliangelus micrastur.	Panychlora stenura.
Rhamphomicron dorsale.	Panychlora russata.
Rhamphomicron olivaceum.	Aphantochroa hyposticta.
Ionolæma whitelyana.	Eriocnemis sapphiropygia.
Oxyopogon cyanolæmus.	Eupetomena hirundo.
Selasphorus ardens.	Dorifera veraguensis.

The following species are described, but it has not been thought necessary to figure them:—*Selasphorus torridus*, *S. henshawi*, *Atthis ellioti*, *Eriocnemis dyselius*, *E. chrysorama*, *E. assimilis*, *E. smaragdinipectus*, *Dorifera rectirostris*, *D. euphrosinæ*, *Eutoxeres heterura*, *E. salvini*, *Eucephala scapulata*, *E. pyropygia*, *E. subcærulea*, *E. cyanogenys*, and *Lesbia chlorura*.

54. Hartlaub on the Ornithology of Eastern Equatorial Africa.

[Zweiter Beitrag zur Ornithologie der östlich-äquatorialen Gebiete Africa's von Dr. G. Hartlaub, nach Sendungen und Noten von Dr. Emin Bey in Lado. Abh. Nat. Ver. Bremen, Band iii. Heft 2. Bremen: 1882.]

Dr. Hartlaub's present memoir treats of the 120 species, examples of which were collected by Dr. Emin Bey during his recent travels in the districts of Bari, Lattuka, and Shuli, on the Upper White Nile, south of Ladó. The exact localities are plainly indicated on an accompanying outline map

of these regions. The new species of this collection have been already described* ; but one more is now added—*Cisticola ladoensis*. Numerous critical notes and references are given in the present paper, and also a few corrections and additions to the former article on the same subject. In conclusion Dr. Hartlaub furnishes a systematic list of all the species of birds (276) of which examples have been transmitted by Dr. Emin Bey to the Museums of Bremen and Vienna. *Psittacus erithacus* is common in Uganda and Southern Unyoro ; and some interesting notes on its habits in a state of nature are given.

55. Harvie-Brown's Report on Scottish Ornithology.

[Third Report on Scottish Ornithology—October 1st, 1880, to April 1881. Compiled by Mr. John A. Harvie-Brown, F.R.S.E. Proc. Nat. Hist. Soc. Glasgow, 1881, p. 41.]

After an account of the terrible weather experienced during the winter of 1880–81 (gales from N.E. and E. all the season, and severe frosts and snows, especially in January 1881, which did great injury to the native species), Mr. Harvie-Brown gives his notes upon the more remarkable occurrences in systematic order. A *Saxicola deserti* (cf. Zool. 1881, p. 54) was the prize of the season. Several examples of *Lanius excubitor* occurred, and one of *Numenius borealis* was shot, in Kincardineshire.

56. Harvie-Brown on the Migration of Birds.

[Paper on the Migration of Birds upon our British Coasts, read before the Stirling Field Club on Tuesday, 13th December 1881. By J. A. Harvie-Brown, F.R.S.E. &c. 8vo. Stirling: 1881.]

An excellent essay upon migration, in which special attention is drawn to Herr A. Weissman's paper on this subject in the 'Contemporary Review' (vol. xxxiv. p. 531). At the end is given a useful list of some of the later and more important essays on migration.

* *Vide* Ibis, 1883, p. 103.

57. *Heywood's 'Field Naturalist.'*

[The Field-Naturalist and Scientific Student, a Medium of Intercommunication. No. 7. December 1882. Manchester: Abel Heywood and Son.]

This new popular magazine of natural history contains occasionally articles on birds and bird-life. In the present number Mr. C. Oxendale gives an account of a "Lancashire Gullery."

58. *Hoffman on Birds observed at Ft. Berthold, D. T.*

[List of Birds observed at Ft. Berthold, D. T., during the Month of September 1881. By W. J. Hoffman, M.D. Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist. xxi. p. 397.]

Fort Berthold is an Indian village in Dakota, on the Missouri, about ninety-five miles above Bismark. Dr. Hoffman was studying the Indian tribes there in September 1881, but found time to record his observations on 40 species of birds, of which he gives a list, with notes. *Neocorys spraguei* was "rather abundant during the earlier portion of the month."

59. *Huet on Birds bred in 1881 in the Jardin des Plantes, Paris.*

[Note sur les Naissances d'Oiseaux obtenues en 1881 à la Ménagerie du Muséum d'histoire Naturelle. Par M. Huet. Bull. Soc. d'Acclim. France, 1882, p. 352.]

Amongst the birds which bred in the Jardin des Plantes in 1881 we find mentioned *Perdix fusca* of Senegal (*Ptilo-pachys fuscus*?), and *Cygnus buccinator*, besides other interesting species.

60. *Littleboy on the Birds of Hertfordshire.*

[Notes on Birds observed in Hertfordshire during the Year 1881. By John E. Littleboy. Trans. Hertfordshire Nat. Hist. Soc. ii. p. 83.]

Mr. Littleboy chronicles the additions made to the list of Hertfordshire birds in 1881, thirteen in all. *Oriolus galbula* nested near Ware in June of that year; and a specimen of

Falcinellus igneus was shot on a lake in Balls Park in September. Other interesting notes are given.

61. *Mela's 'Vertebrata Fennica.'*

[Suomen Luurankoiset, eli luonnontieteellisen Suomen Luurankoiseläimistö. Kirjoitli A. J. Mela. 8vo. Helsingissä: 1882.]

This is a handbook of the vertebrated animals of Finland, written in Finnish, and consequently rather incomprehensible to the world in general. It is illustrated by occasional woodcuts. Two hundred and seventy-four species of birds are included as inhabitants of Finland.

62. *Müller on the Birds of the Island of Salanga.*

[Die Ornis der Insel Salanga, so wie Beiträge zur Ornithologie der Halbinsel Malakka. Ein zoogeographische Studie. Inaugural-Dissertation zur Erlangung der Doctorwürde der philosophischen Facultät der Universität Erlangen, vorgelegt von August Müller. 8vo. Hamburg: 1882.]

About 1000 bird-skins, transmitted to Berlin by Capt. J. Weber from Tongkah, in the Siamese island of Salanga, on the western coast of the Malaccan peninsula, form the basis of this memoir. The collection was made in less than a year, and embraces fine series of many of the species, which are all together 155 in number. Two species are described as new, *Criniger cabanisi* and *Gecinus weberi*. Two examples of *Ampeliceps coronatus* were in the collection. Careful notes are given on points of distribution and geographical variation. On the moot question of *Buceros* (*Rhytidoceros*) *undulatus* and *subruficollis*, Herr Müller agrees with Blasius and Nehrkorn in doubting the existence of two species. To the account of the species is appended an excellent essay upon the geographical relationship of the Salangan ornis, illustrated by tables showing the distribution of every species.

63. *Nutting on Birds from Costa Rica.*

[On a Collection of Birds from the Hacienda "La Palma," Gulf of Nicoya, Costa Rica. By C. C. Nutting. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1882, p. 382.]

Mr. Nulting spent four weeks in March and April last at the hacienda La Palma on the Gulf of Nicoya, Pacific coast of Costa Rica, and obtained examples of 97 species of birds, on which some excellent field-observations are given. Mr. Ridgway, who has determined the species, adds some valuable critical notes. *Icterus pectoralis espinachi* is a new subspecies, and *Myiarchus nultingi* a new species. *Muscivora mexicana* was found abundant and breeding.

64. *Oates on the Birds of Pegu.*

[A List of the Birds of Pegu. By Eugene W. Oates. Stray Feathers, vol. x. p. 175.]

A carefully drawn-up list of the birds ascertained to occur in the British province of Pegu, of which a map is given, showing its exact limits and general features. Short notices of their distribution and times of occurrence are added; and in the cases of rare or doubtful species further explanations are given. The list contains 454 species, arranged in the order of Mr. Hume's Catalogue and according to his nomenclature, with but few exceptions. Pegu seems to be a paradise of Sylviadæ in certain seasons; *Calliope kamtschatkensis* and *Cyanecula suecica* are "very abundant" in the cold weather, and *Locustella lanceolata* and *L. certhiola* "extremely common."

65. '*Ornithologist and Oologist.*'

[Ornithologist and Oologist. Vol. vii. Nos. 22 & 23. November and December 1882. Joseph M. Wade, Boston, U. S. A.]

We have lately been favoured with copies of several numbers of this American magazine of popular ornithology, now in its eighth year of publication. It contains principally notes of the life-history of the birds of North America. In the two numbers now before us an interesting notice is given of the habits and nesting of *Phainopepla nitens*, as observed by Mr. B. W. Everman in Southern California.

66. *Payne-Gallwey's 'Fowler in Ireland.'*

[The Fowler in Ireland, or Notes on the Haunts and Habits of Wild-

fowl and Seafowl, including Instructions in the Art of shooting and capturing them. By Sir Ralph Payne-Gallwey, Bart. 8vo. London: 1882.]

There is not much that can be called scientific in this work, the title of which speaks for itself; but we are told by one who is a very experienced hand in such matters that it is one of the best books on the subject ever written.

67. *Pelzeln's Report on the Progress of Ornithology in 1881.*

[Bericht über die Leistungen in der Naturgeschichte der Vögel während des Jahres 1881 von August von Pelzeln. 8vo. Berlin: 1883.]

Herr v. Pelzeln's Report is as full and as complete as usual, but a little late in its issue. A great number of the smaller memoirs are mentioned.

68. *Ramsay on new Birds from the Solomon Islands.*

[Description of two new Birds from the Solomon Islands. By E. P. Ramsay, F.L.S. Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. vol. vii. p. 299.]

Phlogtenas salamonis and *Dicrurus longirostris* are both from San Christoval. The former is probably *Phl. johannæ* of Tristram (nec Selater).

69. *Ridgway on new North-American Birds.*

[Descriptions of some new North-American Birds. By Robert Ridgway. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1882, p. 343.]

The new birds described are:—(1) *Catherpes mexicanus punctulatus*, subsp. nov., from California; (2) *Lophophanes inornatus griseus*, subsp. nov., from middle U. S., Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona; (3) *Geothlypis beldingi*, from Lower California; and (4) *Rallus beldingi*, from Espiritu Santo islands, Lower California.

70. *Salvadori's 'Ornithology of Papuasias.'*

[Ornitologia della Papuasias e delle Molucche di Tommaso Salvadori. Parte terza. Torino, 1882. 1 vol. 4to, pp. 596.]

We have now the pleasure of recording the completion of

the main portion of this important work, which has cost the energetic author eight years of incessant labour. No one, we are sure, will allege that this labour has been in vain; for a more complete and elaborate memoir on the avifauna of any part of the world has never been produced. Though daily discoveries are being made among the eastern islands, and the subject is far from being exhausted, Salvadori's 'Ornithology of Papuasias' will long remain the standard work of reference upon the birds of that portion of the globe.

The third volume of this work embraces the birds of the Orders Columbæ, Gallinæ, Grallatores, Natatores, and Struthioncs, besides a supplement of species discovered and described during the progress of the work. The avifauna of Papuasias and the Moluccas, or the "Papuan Subregion," as we should prefer to call it, is thus shown to contain 1028 species at present known to us. In conclusion Count Salvadori promises us an introductory volume to treat of the history, bibliography, and geographical distribution of the Papuan avifauna.

71. *Shufeldt's 'Anatomy of Birds.'*

[Contribution to the Anatomy of Birds. By R. W. Shufeldt, M.D. U.S. Geol. & Geogr. Surv. Twelfth Annual Report, 1882, pp. 593-806.]

This is a reprint of Dr. Shufeldt's papers on the osteology of certain North-American Birds, most of which have been already noticed in this Journal. It treats of *Speotyto cunicularia*, *Eremophila alpestris*, and the North-American Tetraonidæ, *Lanius ludovicianus*, and the Cathartidæ, and is profusely illustrated with plates and woodcuts.

72. *Shufeldt on the Osteology of Cinclus mexicanus.*

[Notes upon the Osteology of *Cinclus mexicanus*. By R. W. Shufeldt. Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club, vii. p. 213.]

Mr. Shufeldt continues his studies on the osteology of North-American birds with an essay on the osseous structure of *Cinclus*, which he considers to be "quite closely related to *Siurus*, and not far removed from some of the Wrens."

73. 'Transactions of the Linnæan Society of New York.'

[Transactions of the Linnæan Society of New York. Volume one. Published by the Society, Dec. 1882. New York: 1882. 1 vol. 168 pp.]

The Recording Secretary of the Linnæan Society of New York, Mr. L. S. Foster, has kindly sent us a copy of the first volume of the Society's 'Transactions.' Of the three memoirs which it contains, two are ornithological. One, by Mr. Dutcher, relates to the question as to whether the Fish-Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*) is only a summer visitor or a permanent resident at the northern limit of its range; the other, by Mr. E. P. Bicknell, is "a Review of the Summer Birds of a part of the Catskill Mountains, with prefatory Remarks on the Faunal and Floral Features of the Region," and is of much interest.

74. Turner on *Lagopus mutus* and its Allies.

[On *Lagopus mutus*, Leach, and its Allies. By Lucien M. Turner. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1882, p. 225.]

Mr. Turner recognizes four subspecies of *L. mutus*, namely—*L. mutus (typicus)* from Europe, *L. mutus rupestris* of N. America, *L. mutus reinhardti* of Greenland, and *L. mutus atkensis* (subsp. nov.) of the Atka Islands (Aleutians). Mr. Turner has not been able to examine Icelandic specimens (*L. islandorum*, Faber).

75. Vorderman's 'Batavian Birds.'

[Bataviasche Vogels door A. G. Vorderman. Part III. Afgedrukt uit het Ned. Tijdschr. v. Ned. Ind. Deel xlii.]

This is a continuation of the article already mentioned (Ibis, 1883, p. 118). It contains notes and descriptions of thirty birds met with by the author near Batavia. *Cypselus infumatus*, not *C. palmarum* as given by Bernstein (J. f. O. 1860, p. 429), is the small Palm-Swift of Java.

76. Zeledon's 'Birds of Costa Rica.'

[Catalogo de las Aves de Costa-Rica, Por José C. Zeledon. 8vo. San José, Costa-Rica, 1882.]

The well-known collector José C. Zeledon has kindly sent us a copy of his catalogue of the birds of Costa Rica, printed at San José in June 1882. The list embraces no less than 701 species, arranged according to Lilljeborg's system as modified by the Smithsonian Institution. Merely the names are given, with an asterisk to indicate such as are represented in the author's collection.

XXVI.—*Letters, Announcements, &c.*

We have received the following letters addressed to the Editors of 'The Ibis':—

Northrepps Hall, Norwich,
January 30, 1883.

SIRS,—Major Legge, in the article on *Gorsachius melanolophus* contained in his work on the Birds of Ceylon, says, "it is worthy of note that it has not been met with on the east coast, notwithstanding that it migrates from the east to Ceylon." I therefore transcribe the following from a communication just received from my friend Mr. Samuel Bligh, of Catton, near Lemastotle, Ceylon:—"A specimen (♂ juv.) of *Gorsachius melanolophus* was shot not far from here on November 25th, in a small bushy swamp by jungle, at an elevation of over 3500 feet. It was in good plump condition, slightly on the moult, and is the first capture of this species on the eastern side of the island."

Yours &c.,

J. H. GURNEY.

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.,
February 8th, 1883.

SIRS,—Recognizing fully the courteous consideration bestowed upon my 'Check List' by your reviewer (who is not known to me as such), I beg to reply in the same spirit to some of the points raised.

Is not *Myiadectes* a purely suppositious emendation of *Myadestes*, Sw.? In my judgment, the derivation from *μύια*, Attic *μύα*, and *ἐδεστής*, is obvious, direct, and unimpeachable.